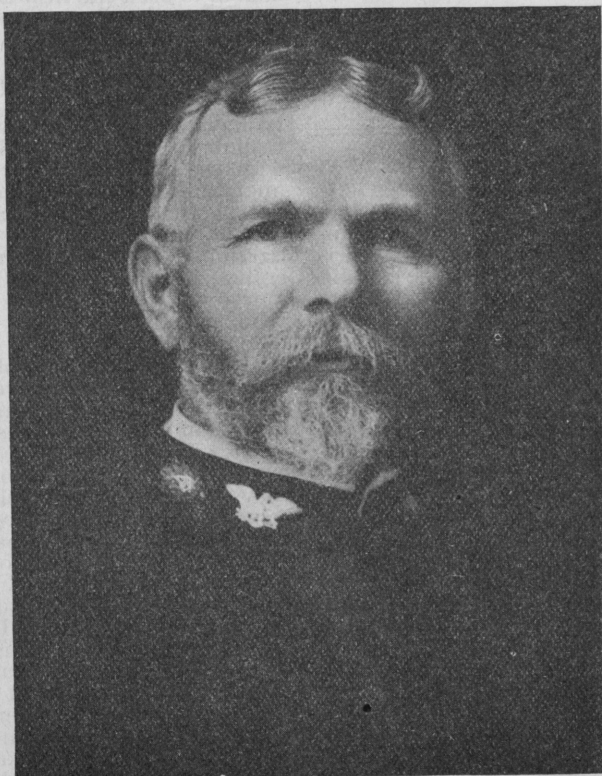


THE AUBURN ALUMNUS

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6.6 w Feb 15 1918
dedicated to J E Wyatt



DR. REMUS C. PERSONS, '69.

THE AUBURN ALUMNUS

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A COMPREHENSIVE AIM

When one says that a college is a state college, one generally means that the college is supported by state funds. A private school may be run for the public good, but it pays well. The private school may fill a need that the public school does not meet, but that is the fault of the public school. The denominational school seldom pays well but has a definite purpose and *raison d'être*. Whether the state school system could do the special work now done by denominational institutions may be doubted, but the assumption is not a certainty. Most private schools are reactionary and follow ideals of the past, ideals of gentlemanly culture together with a certain amount of training in physical prowess, the ideals for which Matthew Arnold dubbed the aristocracy of England barbarian. Denominational schools laying their emphasis on character training are open to the rejoinder that their success is probably no better than that of the public school in this specific work. No school or college can afford to neglect the spiritual in youth training. There is a feeling abroad that all private or special schools not supported by the public have undesirable limitations. The state supported college is, at least in theory, free from the limitations that it must make money and that it must teach and disseminate any special propaganda except the truth. It should take sides

only against error and for progress. It can afford, in theory again, to ignore the opinions of any class or group of citizens in matters that concern all. When we think of Auburn, then, we should think of an institution that fosters in its special field the good of all the people of the state. She makes a specialty of agriculture, engineering, and scientific investigation and brings the results of her study to bear on the problems of all sections of the state.

The state college belongs to all the people. The denominational school must square with the doctrine of the church, and the private school must make an income for the owner. The managing body of the school of such limitations have a pretty definite sailing order, while the controlling forces of a state school have rather general orders: to find things out and tell the people about them. The past is a better guide for the private school than for the state school, because it is the business of the state scientific school to seek the new as well as to teach the old, and to keep abreast with modern thought and invention. It must foster and teach the best and most progressive of the present and improve on it in the future. For this reason those in authority have the biggest kind of educational responsibility, not simply that they have a many minded master and must keep open minds to all varieties of thought, but also because the state school is the jealous guardian of the advance of civilization. The fundamental law of the college today will likely be out of date tomorrow. A 1900 model too old for boys who will have to take charge of 1918 models. That is why it costs so much to keep a technical school abreast of the times. But it costs more to the teachers and directors. They cannot simply teach what somebody else has found out and written in a book. They must know what experiments are going on in the world; they must have experiments going themselves to add to the stock of knowledge; they must be adapting new ideas and inventions to the needs of the people in the state which they serve. Furthermore, it costs them personally, not simply because they might be making more money elsewhere, for this boast is often false, but because they are accumulating for the public, thinking in terms of the common man, giving themselves to study which will bring dividends to the farmer and the industrial worker. A state college cannot be run for the benefit of the authorities. Their preconceived ideas, their experience must stand the test of the newest thought and progress; their ambitions must place the needs of a state above personal or even institutional aggrandizement. The problem of the state college is as broad as the field of knowledge itself and must know no partisan-

ship that seeks to serve fewer than all the people.

Colleges like Auburn are subject to the criticism that they place the emphasis on the material things of life. It is true that one of the chief aims of these schools is to help folks get better returns for their labor, to make more money. More money usually promotes better living conditions, better education, more leisure for the delights of life, for music, for culture, and more power to do good. The frantic partisan of the church school laments the materializing of the younger generation (who seem to like the process if we may judge by the way they come to Auburn) implying by the argument that a state school ignores moral considerations. Schools of theology, social service, law, medicine, because they prepare men for vocations, are subject to the same criticism. Vocational training in science and engineering is in no sense antagonistic to moral growth. During the last hundred years the influence of scientific

thought upon religious thought, no one will hesitate to say, has been beneficial. Muscular Christianity, efficiency in the whole of life, whether religious or secular, is not to be ignored as mere materialism. One great scientist claimed that he was learning, in the strata of the earth, the laws of God. The core of this argument is that technical schools are not sectarian and have no formula to defend, but are seeking all knowledge and teaching the art of labor; and, viewed in this light, non-sectarianism is a great positive force for good rather than a shortcoming. When we argue on religious matters we are too careful to draw a line between the sacred and the secular. A man's vocation may be chosen with the same sense of care and in the same sense of loyalty to right as his beliefs. There is no higher calling than that of helping young men to find themselves in the study of science, business, social and industrial welfare. That is the aim of Auburn.

COLLEGE NEWS

RADIO ENGINEERING

After lengthy conference with the government, Prof. Dunstan has been able to revive our course in wireless telegraphy. It now is called "Course in Radio Engineering" and is a part of Auburn's service to the Nation in getting men ready for the firing line.

Two sets of the radio apparatus have arrived and are now in use. Much interest is shown by the Senior class in this subject and they have abandoned all work that does not apply directly to their technical course in order that they put more time into this work. Every member of the Senior Electrical Engineering Class, with the exception of two, have put all their efforts into the new work. They are required before starting the course to swear that they will not give out any information which they obtain in the work. The following men have registered for the course:

J. Andrew Douglas, W. B. West, J. N. Spencer, E. O. Duffey, J. T. Hudson, Jr., L. H. Heyman, L. G. Duggar, W. H. Withington, W. A. Allen, J. M. Sparrow, N. C. Johnson, J. C. Ard, C. E. Doughtie, M. H. Floyd, W. A. Guess, A. R. Huey, W. C. McKay, J. J. Ryan, R. P. Simmons, J. A. Strozier, J. H. Watson, W. E. Conger.

DR. MONROE'S VISIT

Chairman Monroe and other representatives of the Vocational Education Board recently authorized by the Smith-Hughes Bill visited Auburn. This group of experts have been making a tour of Alabama in order to get a better idea of the

present situation on Vocational Education in the State. At present very few schools have complied with the requirements of the Board, and only a few institutions are profiting by the appropriation made by the Smith-Hughes Act. Seven young Auburn men have recently accepted positions in High Schools provided by this fund. These are probably the only young men outside of the colleges of the State who hold positions under this Board. However, the prospects are that in a few months quite a large number of schools will have qualified and provided for Vocational instruction under this act.

DR. REMUS PERSONS, '69

Dr. Remus C. Persons, '69, medical director U. S. Navy, retired, died suddenly in Columbus a few weeks ago en route from Florida to his old home in Auburn. Dr. and Mrs. Persons had stopped over in Columbus to visit their niece, Mrs. M. L. Wade, formerly Miss Julia Cowan, of Opelika. He was apparently quite well, but after a hearty meal was shortly stricken with apoplexy and died in a few minutes.

Dr. Persons was born in Auburn in 1850, graduated from the A. P. I., and entered the naval academy at the age of 22. He rose in rank rapidly and served as naval surgeon on many of the United States war vessels in all parts of the world, besides many years as surgeon in charge at several naval hospitals and the larger naval yards. At the time of age retirement several years ago he was one of the highest ranking surgeons in the service.

Dr. Persons was a member of the Meth-

odist church and a most affable and likeable gentleman, beloved by all who knew him. He is survived by his wife, three daughters, Mrs. S. M. Henry, Mrs. Lewis McBride and Mrs. David L. Breton (all wives of naval officers); two sisters, Anna and Julia Persons, and a niece, Mrs. A. St. C. Dunstan, of Auburn, and also a number of nieces and nephews, the sons and daughters of the late Mrs. Julia Cowan of Opelika.

He was buried at Auburn. The student regiment escorted the body to the cemetery and student officers were active pall bearers. This was very fitting because Dr. Persons was very fond of town and college.

THE MISSISSIPPI DEBATE

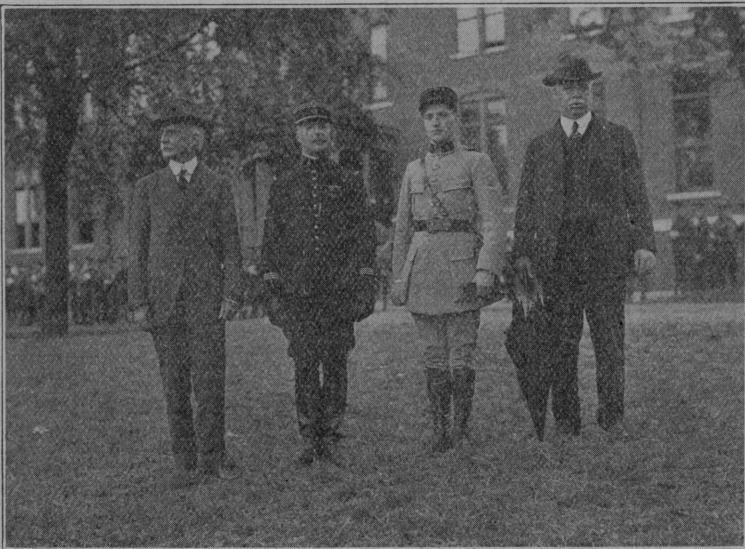
The third annual contest in debates with Mississippi A. & M. was heard in Langdon Hall on Friday, April 12, 1918. The Mississippi speakers were Messrs. Hand and Swann; the Auburn speakers were Messrs. O. L. Martin, Jr., '18, and J. V. Waits, '20. The subject for debate was as follows: Resolved, That the western nations should prevent the further extension of Japanese sovereignty in the east. Auburn supported the negative and won the debate by a two to one vote of the judges. As each side was allowed to interrupt their opponents with as many questions as they desired, the contest was exceedingly spirited and enjoyable. Auburn has won two of the three contests.

VISIT OF FRENCH OFFICERS

The College had the unforeseen pleasure and honor of a visit from Mr. S. M. Wellborn, who is officially connected

with the branch Reserve Bank at New Orleans, and two officers of the French army who are giving instructions to troops at Camp Sheridan in Montgomery. The names of these two gallant officers, who are officers of the mission militaire au Etat-Unis, are Captain Edward Hirsch, 5th Artillery Corps, and Lieutenant Maurice La Prevotte, 8th Engineers. The party spent the forenoon and a part of the afternoon in visiting the various departments of the college, and were accorded the honor of reviewing the regiment with Major Winston. After the review there was a general meeting in Langdon Hall, which was addressed by the visiting gentlemen. Captain Hirsch gave some idea of the modern science of fighting as contrasted with that of past times. He laid a great deal of emphasis on the progress made during the present war. He said for instance that troops now had to be trained not only with the rifle and bayonet, but with many other weapons, and had to be acquainted with many forms of science such as signalling, trench building, etc. He spoke of the fact that aeroplanes could communicate with each other by wireless telephony at a distance of eighty miles or more. He emphasized also the fact that the individual initiative is going to play an increasingly important part on the battle line. The victory at Verdun was due to the superior individual initiative of the French soldier as well as to the tactical superiority of the French command. In other words, even the private of today has to be trained in many lines of science, and has to be capable of exercising considerable judgment on the battlefield.

Lieutenant Prevotte spoke rather humbly of the life of the Poilu, and laid great emphasis on his devotion to his du-



Dr. Thach, Captain Hirsch, Lieutenant La Prevotte, and Mr. Wellborn.



SALUTING THE FLAG

ty. Despite his broken English, he made himself understood to a large audience, and received considerable applause.

The visit of these gentlemen has been one of the most interesting events of the past month.

DOTHAN SENDS A LARGE DELEGATION TO AUBURN

Twelve members of the present freshman class are Dothan High School boys. Their names are as follows: E. J. Barnett, W. W. Barnett, Jr., B. W. Clendinen, W. W. Hatcher, B. H. Hill, L. P. Hodges, A. H. Lisenby, J. M. Merritt, J. D. Newton, J. Sanders, A. H. Speigner, B. L. Ward. The other Dothan boys in college are as follows: J. T. Fowler, W. L. Holmes, N. D. Spann, W. W. Culver, A. S. Lisenby, F. Page, J. B. Pilcher, J. P. Shealey.

ATHLETICS

BY B. COPLAN.

SPRING ATHLETICS

Coach Donahue sounded the call for baseball candidates around the first of March and about fifty men responded. Last year with Griffin, Collins, Hairston, and other men of the same caliber on his squad about all Coach had to do was to dig up his baseball paraphernalia and tell his ready made varsity to go to it. This year things were different. Of that entire great 1917 team only two men were left after Uncle Sam's call. Ducote and

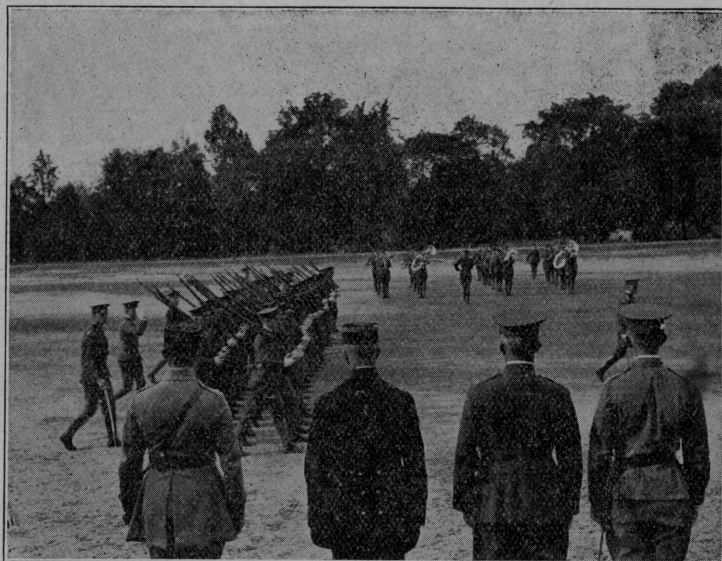
Bonner, who are seniors, are all that remain, and Coach Donahue has had to build a team from the ground up.

To say that he has had success would be putting it mildly. He has worked wonders. With a team that is little over the freshman class in age, Auburn has given the Cincinnati Reds the best exhibition game of the year, split a series with the veteran Georgia nine and won a series from the fast Mercer team. The last in itself was no small accomplishment, since for several seasons past the Baptists have been a veritable Jonah to the Tigers.

Auburn, Georgia, Mercer and Tech have formed a league, each team playing the other four games, two of these games with each college to be played on the home grounds. The Atlanta Constitution has offered a pennant to the winner, and Auburn leads to date.

Johnson, a freshman built on the same lines as Pitcher Price of last year's team, seems to be a find on the pitching staff, and if the other members can round into form, Auburn should be able to keep up her early season pace. The infield and outfield are fast, and have proven that they can hit. The lineup follows: Ducote, catcher; Fulghum, first; Barnes, second; Scott, short; Neidhart, third; Bonner, right field; Reynolds, center; Hughes left field; Johnson, Ollinger, Stiles, Wilson, pitchers.

In order to get as many men as possible into athletics, Coach Donahue has ruled this year that a student could play on only one class team. This has probably been hard on some all-round class



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athletes but it is safe to say that more men have participated in class athletics this year than ever before and that is just what our military authorities want.

The track men have been working out the past few days and it would not be surprising to see an Auburn team enter one of the numerous meets this spring.

The dignified seniors, after walloping the lowly rats in basketball, turned around and surprised the juniors and won the championship.

AUBURN TIGERS HAD SURPRISE FOR REDS, HOLDING LEAGUERS 8 TO 3

BY THOMAS HALL

The Auburn baseball team gave the Cincinnati Reds a surprise in their game at Soldiers' Field and held the National League team to the close score of 8 to 3, although the Reds were expected to defeat the Tigers by a much larger score. Stage fright in the early part of the game cost the Auburn team a large number of runs, and errors at critical times were responsible for the others. The Reds out of their six clean hits, were only able to make one for an extra drive, this being made by Henie Groh in the eighth inning who sent a fast one past third for two bases.

Pete Bonner, "Moon" Ducote and Fulghum were the heavy hitters for the Tigers. Bonner out of four trips to the rubber, secured two hits, both being doubles, was walked once and was retired on the

fourth time on an infield rap. Ducote drove a neat double to centerfield, and Fulghum connected with a fast one for three bases to left center. Eddie Roush, the leading batter of the National League, secured only one bingle, despite the fact that he was swinging mighty hard on each trip to the plate.

Reds Score Two in the Opening Inning

In the opening inning the Tigers failed to score, although Bonner doubled. Groh walked, Neale flew out to right field, Roush rolled an easy one to third base and when Neidhart threw the ball past first base, Groh scored and Roush went to second. Chase flew out to Ducote. Griffith was safe when Vinton dropped a big fly and Roush scored.

In the second inning Barnes singled, Vinton popped out to first and Fulghum tripped to centerfield and Barnes scored.

Errors Give Away Two Runs

In the third inning the Reds added another run when Neale sent a high one to Vinton, who dropped the ball and Neale stopped at third. Roush was safe when Scott fumbled an easy roller and Neale scored. Two more were added by the Reds in the fourth on two bases on balls and a single by Roush, on which Wingo and Eller scored. In the seventh a base on balls, a sacrifice hit and a single by Griffith scored Anderson, and Griffith scored when Reynolds made a bobble of Shean's hit. The last run was made by the Reds in the eighth after one was out, Jacobus walked and scored on Groh's two-base hit down third base line.

Auburn staged a rally in the eighth and scored two runs. After one was out,

Reynolds got a clean single to center. Scott flew out to short. Bonner came across with a double to left field and Reynolds scored. Ducote sent Roush and Griffith on a run when he poled a long one to centerfield for two bases and Bonner scored. Barnes walked. With Cosper at the bat, Ducote and Barnes worked the double steal. Cosper ended the inning by striking out.

Manager Mathewson and the entire team were very much pleased at the game put up by the Auburn nine, and the players said they were certainly sorry that they had not been brought here sooner, as it was the best team they have played this season in the exhibition games.

SEEN IN THE NEWSPAPERS

BY B. COPLAN

Wonder what Bob McWhorter thought when he read of that 12-2 Auburn-Georgia game Friday. In the days when Bob was poling the pill, instead of hurling live hand grenades, Auburn heaved a sigh of heartfelt relief if she out-diamonded Georgia by one run, or half a run, or a stolen base or something.—Atlanta Journal.

That was in the old days, Bob.

GREAT FOOTBALL PLAYER

Greasy Neale, outfielder for the Reds, was a football coach for the West Virginia Wesleyan. Neale has heard of Ducote, the wonderful halfback on the Auburn team, and will have the opportunity to see Ducote in action this afternoon in a baseball uniform. Neale recently stated that he was very anxious to see Ducote, as he had often heard of the wonderful Auburn star.—Montgomery Advertiser.

Marcus Miligan, who used to do star slab duty for Auburn, besides playing about eight other positions as well, when necessity demanded, has turned birdman. Marcus has been a member of the Pittsburg National League team but received his notice to report to Jacksonville for training in the aviation corps.

TEAM OF "LOW BROWS" COULD PUT IT OVER CLAN OF COLLEGIANS

A Philadelphia writer has it figured that the entry of the collegian into the baseball world has not elevated the quality of baseball dispensed in major leagues. A comparison of crack teams selected from the ranks of the high and low brows would appear about as follows:

High Brows—Henry, catcher; Shore,

Leonard, Faber, pitchers; Sisler, first base; E. Collins, second base; Red Smith, third base; Lavan, shortstop, Carey outfield; Robinson, outfield; Cruise, outfield.

Low Brows—Killifer, Schalk, catchers; W. Johnson, Cicotte, Ruth, pitchers; McInnis, first base; Herzog, second base; Chapfan, shortstop; Cobb, outfield, Speaker, outfield; Jackson, outfield.

There is a possibility the high brows might turn out a championship team; there is also a possibility that a sausage factory might turn out some golf links. To most fans it will appear that the educated ballplayers would take off hats to those that "just grew."—News item.

The above article, if not written as a slam on the college man in baseball, is at any rate misleading. If the writer investigated the matter he would find some interesting facts about the college baseball man. The main fact that he has overlooked is the law of proportions. The college player forms a very small percentage of the baseball enthusiasts of the nations. He goes to college primarily for an education. Baseball takes only a small amount of his time and when he gets a big league offer he is handicapped by lack of experience. On the other hand, the ball players who "just grew" are the result of years of training in professional leagues spread over the entire nation and forming a large proportion of the mature ball players of the country. It is therefore entirely out of the question to expect a small group of men to whom playing professional ball is not the primary object in life, to furnish the leading players at all positions.

BASEBALL RESULTS TO DATE

Mar. 26 at Montgomery—Cincinnati Reds 8, Auburn 3.

Mar. 29 and 30 at Athens, Ga.—Auburn 12, Georgia 2; Auburn 1, Georgia 12.

Apr. 5 and 6 at Auburn—Auburn 17, Mercer 10; Auburn 6, Mercer 2.

Apr. 12 and 13 at Atlanta, Ga.—Auburn 4, Tech 8; Auburn 10, Tech 4.

Apr. 19 and 20 at Auburn—Auburn 3, Tech 8; Auburn 3, Tech 0.

LIBERTY LOAN DEMONSTRATION

Students and citizens joined in a parade and mass meeting on Thursday afternoon, April 11, in the interest of the Third Liberty Loan. Following a review of the regiment, a procession was formed and led by the A. P. I. Band, the company passed through the gateway of the campus to Magnolia Street and northward on Gay. After passing around the Baptist church the procession again turned into Main street and proceeded to Langdon Hall. The order of the parade was as

follows: A. P. I. Band; student body; orator of the day; A. P. I. faculty; mothers of boys in service, veterans of the Civil war; committee on the Liberty Loan; city officials; order of Masons; Junior Red Cross; Boy Scouts; Red Cross Chapter. In the speakers' automobile were Lieut. Hughes, Dr. C. C. Thach, Dr. B. B. Ross, and Mrs. F. M. Rowell; and riding with Mrs. J. M. Burt, the county chairman of the Liberty Loan Committee, were Mrs. F. R. Yarbrough, the Auburn chairman, and Mrs. B. B. Ross, the county orator.

In Langdon Hall, Lieut. Hughes gave

an excellent talk, explaining why we are at war, and showing the importance of real cooperation with the government.

The order of exercises was as follows:

1. Selection by the band.
2. Prayer by Rev. R. R. Ellison.
3. Solo by Mrs. W. C. Giles.
4. Introductory remarks by Dr. Thach.
5. Address of the occasion, Lieutenant A. M. Hughes, of Camp Sheridan.
6. The Star Spangled Banner and The Marsellaise by Miss Mamie Harrison.
7. Selection by the band.

LETTERS

THREE LETTERS FROM BAND BOYS IN FRANCE

Prof. A. L. Thomas,
Auburn, Ala.

Dear Prof. Thomas:

I have been intending to write you for some time but kept putting it off until to-night when I got a paper giving account of the game with Tech. On reading that although we were hopelessly beaten the band kept playing "Touchdown Auburn" and "Glory Dear Old Auburn," I could not keep from crying, and wishing that I could have been there. Believe me, if those Germans don't happen to get me this is one kid that is going to be in old Langdon Hall playing at the rallies. Until you have tried it, you can't have any idea how one feels way over here when one gets hold of a paper telling about dear old Auburn.

Neil Ford,
Co. L., 167 U. S. Inf.,

American Expeditionary Forces.
January 25, 1918.

December 9, 1917.

Just a few lines to let you know that I appreciate your writing me. The reason for my not writing much is that the censor who passes his lamps over this abbreviated epistle would pass a pair of scissors neatly around the edges of most any of my remarks.

This is all very interesting to me. I have had fights many times, but I was always the main actor in those catastrophes. Now I am a minute cog in a ponderous wheel. I am witnessing what I used to do on a small scale carried on in a wholesale manner. The people here have stood up under the strain of war for three and a half years. It seems to me that our people should be able to finish it without great handicap.

We have a good band. We handle Il Trovatore fairly well. Don't think I would ever get tired of playing. Now that I make an every day business of it,

I like it more than ever. We have some Auburn prospects; so think it would be a very good idea to send them catalogues.

Give my best to Mrs. Thomas and all of the boys.

Sincerely,

F. M. Taylor, Corp.,
167th U. S. Inf. Band,
A. E. F.

February 7, 1918.

Just a few lines to let you know how the Auburn men of this outfit are getting along, from one of them who hopes to get back so that he may return to Auburn.

All four of us, "Tater Bug," "Chief" Bidez, Ab. Scarbrough and myself, are in excellent health, and enjoying ourselves. "Tater Bug" is as humorous as ever and keeps the whole band in a good humor. "Chief" has a grin spread from ear to ear all of the time, for he has a band that backs him to a man and takes pleasure in playing under him. He is a splendid director and has built the band up to where it is one of the best in our division. We have twenty-seven men, one under the limit of twenty-eight, and the majority of them are, or will make, great musicians. Several of them contemplate entering Auburn when we are mustered out, and have asked for information as to the courses.

Am still "picking" along on alto saxophone, although my chief diversion is a Boehm system oboe, which I expect to be able to play in another month or so. It's about the most exasperating instrument I have ever seen though, and I'm never certain as to what will come out of it.

Give my best regards to all of the band boys and Dr. Thach. My father sent me your letter to him in regard to my box, and I wish to thank you for your help in this matter. Hope that I will soon be able to return and get back to Auburn.

With best regards, I am,

Sincerely,

Marion G. Crosthwait,
167th Inf. Band,
A. E. F.

LETTER TO THE REGISTRAR FROM
ONE WHO IS STUDYING MEDICINE
SOMEWHERE IN
AMERICA

*He Took a Short Premedical Course at
Auburn.*

Most of the fellows are A. B. men, but my preparation has kept me in the first division all the year, thanks to Auburn. Hope this bunch of details has not become monotonous. I can't stop without another word. That is about the Auburn Honor System. It would bring tears to your eyes to see the way they "crib" here. Our exams are held by Proctors—fellows from other departments who are supposed to watch small groups assigned to them. But you know watching never did prevent "cribbing." A fellow can't appreciate the beauties of your system until he runs up against others—or especially these "watching" ones. If you have any pre-Meds. thinking of coming here, have them apply as quickly as possible, as the class (Freshman) is limited to 100 normally—but this year we have a number of girls, so it is larger than usual. Thanking you again for an early reply, I am,

Respectfully yours,

LETTER FROM CAMP FORT LEON
SPRINGS

Dear Prof. Shi:

Thought I would drop you a line today just to let you know that, so far, all is well, and that we like things pretty well.

We are camped in a valley and up the side of a hill. The country is rugged, and they say it hasn't rained here in two years. I believe them. It was too hot to be comfortable when we reached here yesterday, but last night was so cold we just shivered and stoked wood in the stove the entire night, it seems healthy.

There are about ten Auburn men in my company—among them (infantry) Robinson, Phillips, Ray, Crosby, and the rest of them are scattered up and down something like four miles. We are doing our best to look each other up.

Last night they gave us bed ticking and told us to go to the hay pile and make up our mattresses. Carey, Boozier, and myself, several fellows from Utah State, New Mexico A. & M., L. S. U., and Miss. A. & M., all rambling happily down the road with 15c Portinos in our mouths (bought by Carey) and a load of hay over our backs.

Not a thing but soldiers in 23 miles of here, but they say when we get to work we won't be lonesome.

Things look kind of bad for us college men. On mental work we shine, but on

drill we are not as snappy as these regulars and national guard sergeants. Some of the fellows feel down-hearted about it, for they stick you harder on drill than on anything else. Self, Shotts, Phillips and Carnes have just been in talking about it.

There is one other Auburn boy in my platoon of 65 who is receiving rough treatment. The officer in charge has a "pick" on him for some reason. These officers here boast that only fifty percent of the men are going to get commissions. If such is the case, I fear that I'm down, too, but I walked in with my eyes open; so I am going to take it smiling.

ANOTHER LETTER FROM FORT LEON
SPRINGS

Dear Prof. Shi:

Please pardon this pencil, but the "Y" is awfully crowded. I am standing at a counter for this. It's cold outside, real cold, and it is impossible to write or study in the barracks—the only heat is given out by wooden fires in little stoves, and when we crowd up for warmth there is naturally someone always holding forth about some topic which he thinks is necessary for us all to absorb; consequently no study there.

Am quartered in an Ohio platoon—men from Camp Sheridan. There is one other Auburn man in my barracks—Avery Carnes. The only other Southerners in the gang are four or five dandy fellows from Miss. A. & M. I usually stick with this gang.

I am now a corporal. They shift us each week and probably I will soon be a private in the rear rank.

My seven Ohio privates in my squad are big huskies with plenty of experience—but if they are slinging their guns around more snappily than the rest of us, I have not seen it yet.

My chief trouble is study. Each night we march to study hall for two hours' study under our officers' supervision, and I've been so tired I have had to scrap myself to keep awake, much less study. As soon as my muscles get hardened I'll be all right.

We Auburn men are badly scattered. I see one now and then for a hurried "Howdy." Saw Miles, Castleman, Tom Wingo, Ray Phillips, and Liddell last night. We try to gather at the "Y" Friday nights and take in a picture show together. We have started an Auburn roster here. So far, 21 men have signed. As soon as all sign up, we plan a "feed" or something in San Antonio.

Self is in a company which has about thirty negroes training for commissions. He doesn't like it much, but can't help it.

They marched us out on a four hour hike yesterday morning. My gun felt like a German cannon when we did final-

ly come back to barracks, and my feet spread all over my big army shoes.

Burbage, '18.

HELMICH IN FRANCE

Dear "Fessor":

Your letter concerning the C. O. D. charges on the Phi Kappa Phi pin just received today.

It has been so long since I paid for it

that I have forgotten the amount, so I suppose that I must just let it go, but I thank you very much for your trouble.

Please give my kindest regards to the faculty and the student body. I think of Auburn very often with the greatest of pleasure, and when I have done my bit over here, I hope to see you all again.

Sincerely yours,

D. A. Helmich, '17,

Somewhere in France.

ALUMNI NEWS

AN INTERESTING LETTER FROM THE FIRST AUBURN GRADUATE

It is remarkable that after all these years the first graduate of Auburn, the very first man to receive a diploma in the first class of 1860, is in the land of the living, and is none other than the beloved Rev. Wilbur Fisk Glenn, a retired Methodist preacher, residing at 130 East 8th Street, Atlanta, Ga. It is not quite so remarkable, judging from his name, that he is a Methodist preacher, but it is noteworthy that he entered the senior class, as did the other four deceased graduates of the class of 1860, F. S. Johnson, B. D. Lumsden, W. C. Thrash, and A. F. Woolley. It is also worthy of note that the first graduate of Auburn is a fraternity man, having joined the old Mystical Seven Fraternity at Emory College, Oxford, Ga., in 1857, before entering the senior class at Auburn. As this old fraternity was absorbed by Beta Theta Pi in 1890, all of its old members are now members of that fraternity; hence, the first graduate of Auburn is a Beta Theta Pi.

Here is an interesting letter of Dr. Glenn to L. S. Boyd, '92, of Washington, D. C., dated March 7th last:

"I am really sorry that I have to answer all of your questions in such a negative way. There were no Greek Letter Societies at Oxford or Auburn when I was there. I was a member of the old Mystic Society at Oxford, Ga., but it was discontinued the year after I joined. I was a charter member of the Wirt Society at Auburn and, with a committee, wrote the first Constitution and By-Laws. That and the Websterian were the only societies at that time. I was there only one year, being in the first class with four others, all of us having risen senior in other colleges. My degrees were all received at Auburn, B. A., '60; M. A., '64; D. D., '86. The late Mr. E. T. Glenn of Auburn was a distant cousin of mine, though as dear to me as my own brother."

This letter is valuable in many respects, and is doubtless the first printed statement to the effect that all members of the class of 1860 entered Auburn for the first time in the fall of 1859 from other colleges. It fixes an approximate date of the founding of the Wirt Literary Society in the Fall of 1859, and it is well known that this society was founded be-

fore the Websterian Society, possibly both the same session. The fact that Dr. Glenn received the degree of M. A. from Auburn in 1864 would indicate that the college was in operation during the Civil War, although at some period of the war the Main Building was used as a Confederate Hospital. It would be interesting to know the names of the colleges attended by the other four members of the class of 1860, although Mr. Lumsden is known to have come from Mercer University. Doubtless the Wirt Society was patterned after a literary society to which Dr. Glenn had belonged at Emory, in much the same way that the Clariosophic Society of the Southern University at Greensboro was a "chapter" of the old Phi Kappa Society of the University of Georgia. It has always seemed to the writer that the literary societies of Southern colleges should federate, and have joint debates with each other, thus increasing the interest. A mighty impulse would be given to these societies should one society at each Southern college federate with one society at all the other colleges under the leadership of Phi Kappa at the University of Georgia; the other society at each college to federate under the leadership of Phi Gamma at Emory College; and the names of all the societies might be changed to these names.

The old Mystical Seven Fraternity of which Dr. Glenn was a member at Emory was founded at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn., in 1837, its second chapter was established at Emory College in 1841, and many prominent Southerners were members of that chapter, including Professors W. H. Chambers and Robert A. Hardaway, of the Auburn faculty, Prof. Gustavus J. Orr, Robert Goodloe Harper, Dr. Luther Martin Smith, President of Southern University, Dr. Wm. L. C. Hunnicutt, President of Centenary College, La., James B. Hunnicutt, Professor of Agriculture, University of Georgia. The chapters at Emory, 1841, and Georgia, 1844, were the first fraternity chapters established in the South, after the ancient Kappa Alpha of the South which was founded at the University of North Carolina in 1812 and died in 1866.

L. S. Boyd, '92.



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Auburn Student Papers Wanted

The following list of student papers was given to the editor recently by Mr. L. S. Boyd, Washington, D. C.:

Society Scroll, by the Literary Societies, 1882-1883. R. L. Sutton, Editor. (First student paper published at Auburn.)

Auburn Analyzer, monthly, 1883-4. W. L. Hutchinson, Editor.

Auburn Monthly Collegian, 1885-1887. 2 vols.

College Topics, monthly, January-June, 1891. C. C. Johnson, Editor.

College Index, monthly, 1892-93. Dr. C. H. Ross, Editor.

Orange and Blue, weekly, Nov. 7, 1894-June 6, 1895. L. S. Boyd and J. A. Duncan, Editors.

Any information about any of these will be appreciated. If any copies are in existence, we should like to know it.

THE EDITOR.

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